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AUTHOR	Hucko, Bruce
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ABSTRACT

In their own language, Tewa Pueblo people have no word for art. Pottery, painting, embroidery, dancing, and other "art" forms are not considered separate from life; they are synonymous with work, thoughts, and expressions. In this collection, artwork by the children of Santa Clara, San Ildefonso, San Juan, Pojoaque, and Nambe Pueblos accompanies interviews with the children by an art educator. Interviews emphasize creativity, continuity, community, identity, and relationships within the Pueblo culture. The introduction, "Don't Talk Too Much, Just Do Your Show," describes the physical landscape of the Pueblo children; the interview process; gathering the artwork; and aspects of teaching art to children related to attitudes, skills, concepts, and applications. "They Set the Pace for Us" explores ancestral history and intergenerational ties. "My Name Is Secret" describes the children's Tewa names as links to their past and identity. "A Pueblo Is Where Your Family Is" illustrates the concepts of Pueblo place, activities, family, and identity. "Put a Little Color in Your Mind" describes the place of the kiva (sacred place) in Pueblo life, the symbolism and traditions of working with clay in pottery making, and the sources of designs and ideas. Each of the first four chapters is followed by a related art lesson. "Dancing To Get a Good Heart" documents preparations for ritualistic dances on feast days. "No Matter Who You Are, You Belong to the Earth" tells of the children's home life and connection to nature as a source of inspiration and their perceptions of reality. (Contains photographs of the children and their artwork and an index to the photographs.) (SAS)

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